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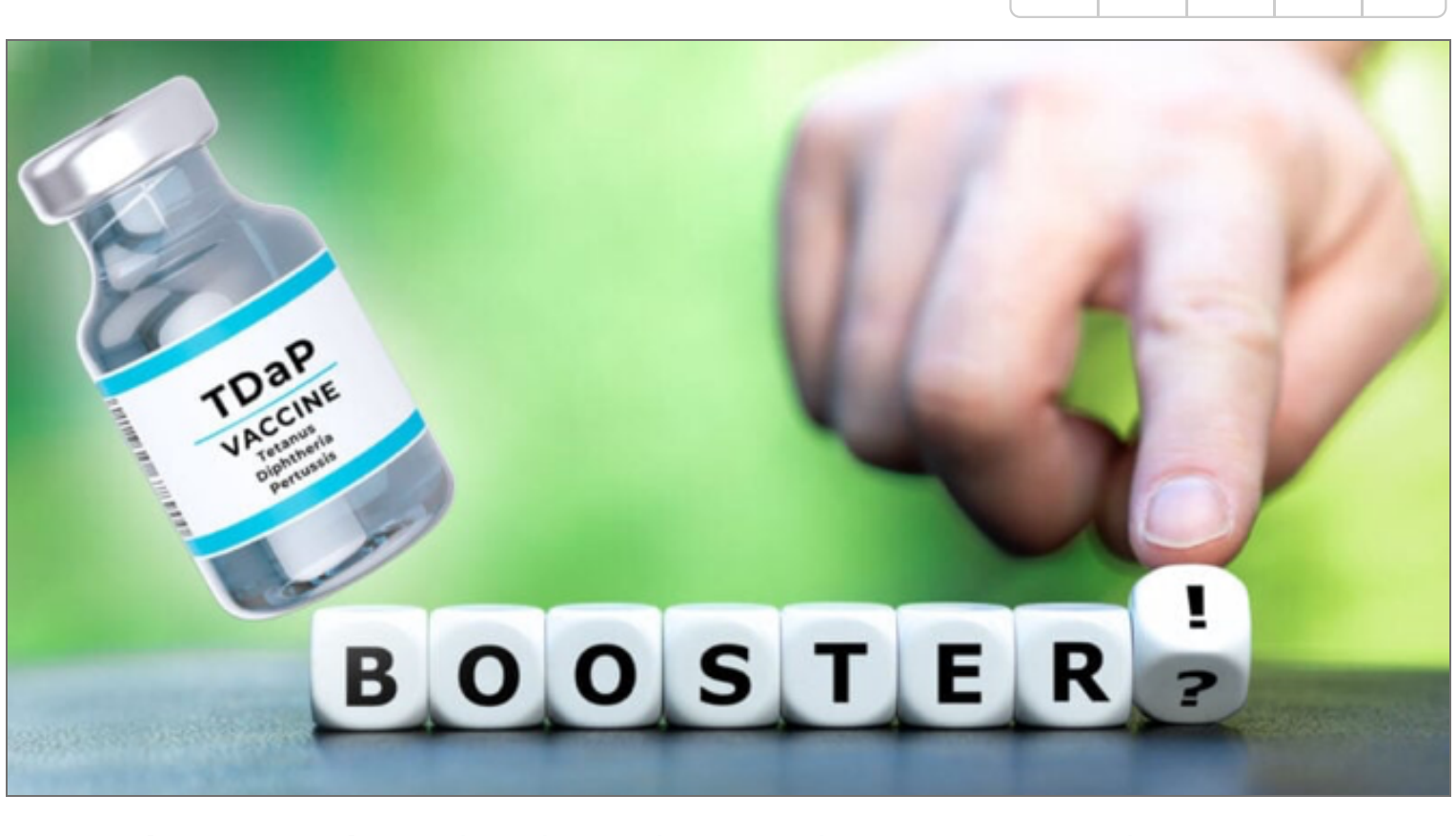
Whooping Cough Boosters for Adults? The Vaccines Don't Even Work for Kids, Experts Say

NBC News this week reported whooping cough "rising sharply" in some countries and quoted experts warning pregnant moms and parents to vaccinate their kids and adults to get boosters. Experts interviewed by The Defender said the vaccines don't prevent transmission and come with dangerous side effects.

By **Brenda Baletti, Ph.D.**

26



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Cases of pertussis — or whooping cough — in the U.S. dropped during the pandemic and today continue to be lower than pre-pandemic levels, NBC News reported on Tuesday.

"We are not seeing anything unusual," Jasmine Reed, a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention spokesperson, told the news outlet.

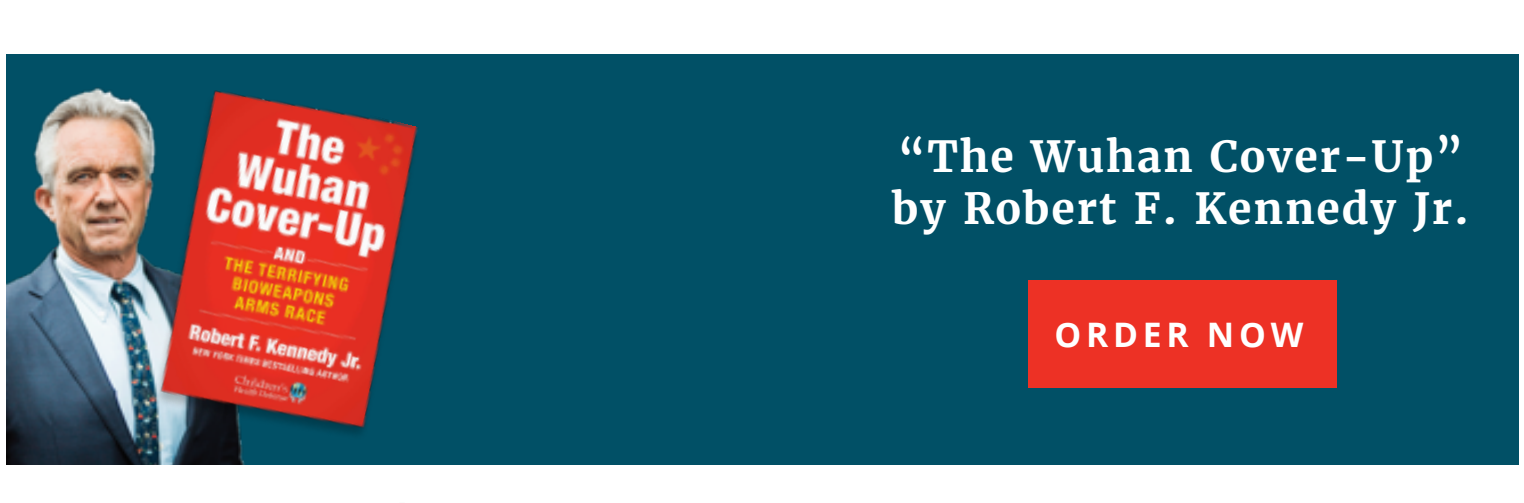
However, in the same article — "Whooping Cough Rising in Some Countries. Why You May Need a Booster" — NBC contributor Kaitlin Sullivan reported that "outbreaks in Europe, Asia and parts of the U.S. should be a reminder to get vaccinated, experts say."

Dr. William Schaffner, a professor of infectious diseases at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, told NBC the current situation "won't turn into a pandemic because we have a highly vaccinated population."

Schaffner added: "However, let's make sure that pregnant people get vaccinated, that babies are vaccinated on schedule, and the rest of us take the Tdap vaccine every 10 years."

This is especially necessary to protect infants, who are especially vulnerable to the otherwise typically mild illness, NBC reported.

Experts told The Defender they thought the NBC report was unnecessarily alarming, cited outdated methods for protecting babies, and failed to consider serious and well-known concerns with the safety and efficacy of DTaP and Tdap vaccines.


"The Wuhan Cover-Up" by Robert F. Kennedy Jr.
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Pertussis vaccines don't prevent transmission

Dr. Bob Sears, author of "The Vaccine Book: Making the Right Decision for Your Child," told The Defender that studies have shown the pertussis vaccine doesn't prevent transmission.

"There's no medical or scientific reason to advise giving the vaccine to any group of people for the purpose of preventing transmission to others," Sears said.

He added:

> "We have whooping cough in our society simply because this is one of several vaccines that doesn't reduce the spread of its disease. The vaccine simply doesn't work that way, and no amount of scientific hope or wishful thinking will change that."

The United Kingdom saw an increase in whooping cough cases in January. According to The BMJ, the spike seen there also occurred in other European countries, but the outbreak primarily affected people ages 15 and older, who are not at high risk from the illness. Only 4% of cases in the recent spike were in infants.

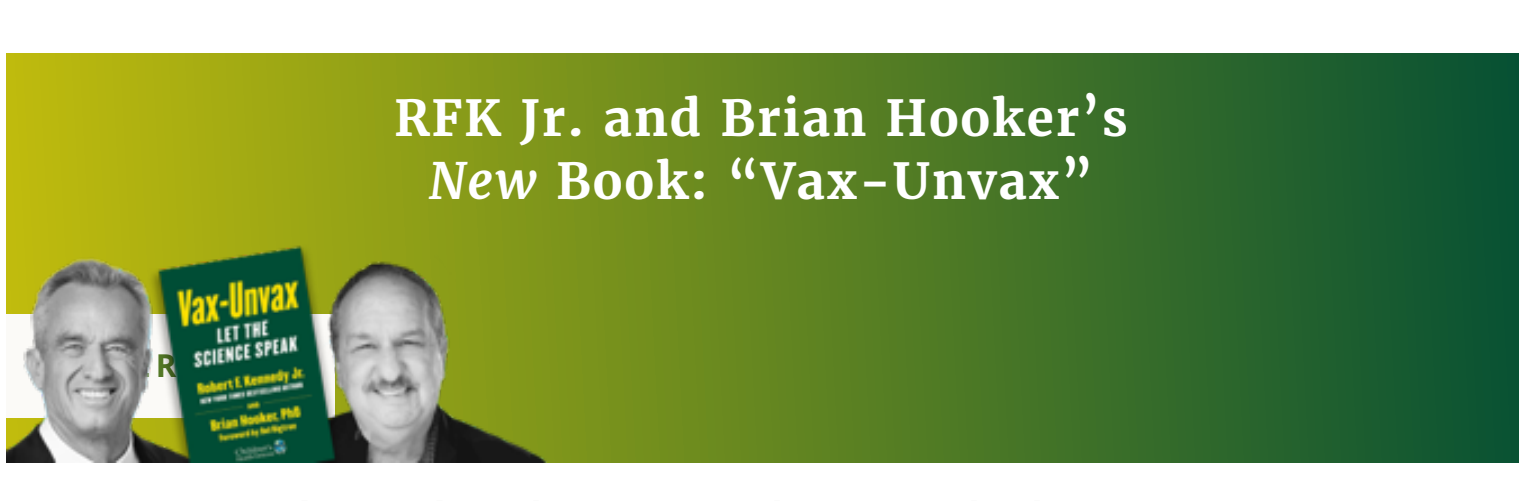
NBC also reported that China had a 15-fold increase in cases in January, part of a variable epidemiology of the disease seen over the last 10 years. That increase amounted to 15,275 cases among a population of over 1.4 billion people.

Even the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) told NBC that the outbreaks and mild isolated cases the agency reported in the San Francisco Bay area, Hawaii and New York are normal and something "we expect to see every year."

Whooping cough is a highly contagious respiratory illness that manifests as a cold in most people, but it can be serious for newborns who have a very narrow trachea, Dr. Meryl Nass, an internal medicine physician, told The Defender.

Deaths from pertussis are extremely rare, averaging about 10 per year. About 85% of deaths happen in children under two months of age — before babies are even eligible to begin the pertussis vaccination.

Nass said pertussis is extremely common and endemic in the U.S. It tends to be misdiagnosed as cold or flu and medical attention is rarely sought, except for babies.


RFK Jr. and Brian Hooker's *New* Book: "Vax-Unvax"

Current formula needs to be 'scrapped or reworked'

Dr. Paul Thomas said the NBC article "completely ignores the risk of death from the vaccine, which is documented to be greater than the number of deaths prevented — even before you consider that 50-90% of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome occurs in the week after infant vaccines, of which the DTaP is the most concerning."

Maternal-fetal medicine expert Dr. James Thorp told The Defender the pertussis vaccine has never been proven to be safe or effective in a randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled trial.

And there have been no long-term studies examining all health outcomes related to the vaccine, Thorp said.

Babies and children currently receive the DTaP vaccine, designed to protect against pertussis, diphtheria and tetanus. People ages 7 and older receive the Tdap booster, designed to protect against diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis.

Thomas, author of "The Vaccine-Friendly Plan: Dr. Paul's Safe and Effective Approach to Immunity and Health-from Pregnancy Through Your Child's Teen Years," said that both DTaP and Tdap are old vaccines that rely on recognizing the pertactin protein to develop immunity.

About 85% of pertussis circulating in the U.S. is pertactin-negative making the vaccine at best 15% effective, he said.

The CDC has been tracking changes in the prevalence of bacteria causing whooping cough for years. The most recent CDC data, reported this month, found that the Bordetella parapertussis type of whooping cough has significantly overtaken B. pertussis in prevalence — and research published in Vaccines in March shows the existing vaccines "scarcely provide protection" against this strain.

"This pertussis vaccine needs to either be scrapped or reworked to provide one that is effective," Thomas said.

"Those vaccinated are now getting pertussis at a much higher rate than those with natural immunity and not vaccinated for pertussis," he added. "It is the vaccinated who are also most likely to bring pertussis to newborns and put them at risk."

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Vaccinated — not unvaccinated — more likely to give infants pertussis

NBC reported that although the disease poses no serious threat to most adults, adults ought to get vaccinated to protect infants.

The article quotes Schaffner as saying, "Anyone who comes to see the new baby should have had a recent inoculation with Tdap vaccine, to provide a cocoon of protection around that baby."

But Thomas said the concept of cocooning, "where you vaccinate the adults and children and caregivers in the infant world to provide a cocoon of protection, has been long abandoned as it has failed to protect infants."

"It turns out those vaccinated still get pertussis and because sometimes it is a less severe infection (a minor vaccine benefit) they are more likely to be around infants and put them at risk for pertussis."

Nass noted that antibiotics provide some protection against whooping cough transmission, but not against symptoms. And because the disease is misdiagnosed in adults and very mild, few take them.

Thomas said the best approach for parents with an infant — because the disease is relatively harmless after one year — is to avoid indoor crowds and sick visitors.

"Even family and visitors who are not sick should wash their hands with soap and water before touching the baby and not kiss the baby on the face, hands or feet," he said. "It is worth noting that the worst of the pertussis dangers was largely gone even before the vaccine was introduced to the masses."

'No vaccine should be given during pregnancy'

Nass told The Defender that another problem with pertussis vaccine efficacy is that it takes multiple shots — given at ages 2, 4, 6 and 15-18 months — for a child to develop some immunity.

However, children are only really at risk of death from the illness very early in life, before the shots provide any protection.

Thorp said that because the original goal of protecting infants with the vaccine in the first year of life was "a miserable failure" pharmaceutical companies began advocating to give the shots to pregnant women.

In 2012, the CDC first began recommending the TDap vaccine for pregnant women to protect newborn infants, despite the fact that they largely don't need the diphtheria or tetanus components, Nass said.

"The CDC could have recommended manufacturers make just a pertussis vaccine for this purpose, but chose not to," she added.

This was another example, Thorp said, "where this fable that the vaccine would provide immunity was forced down the throats of pregnant women with the backing of the medical-industrial-complex without a randomized double-blinded, placebo-controlled trial."

No vaccine should be given during pregnancy, Thorp said. "But now the pharmaceutical industrial complex is pushing six vaccines including for influenza, tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, RSV, and COVID-19."

"From the fetus to the infant at 12 months of life, there are about 42 vaccines administered in 2024, compared with about 11 in 1986," he added. "This is absurd and an abomination of science."

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Brenda Baletti, Ph.D.

Brenda Baletti, Ph.D., is a senior reporter for The Defender. She wrote and taught about capitalism and politics for 10 years in the writing program at Duke University. She holds a Ph.D. in human geography from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a master's from the University of Texas at Austin.

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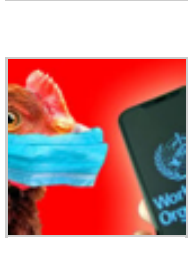
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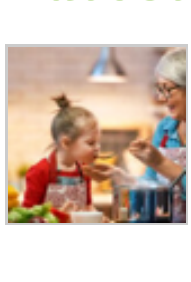
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Best Newest Oldest

Honey Bee
5 days ago
Pregnant people are women. Say it you stupid elitists that are living in some kind of make believe world. Say it, woman. A woman gave birth to all of us, not some dude that dresses like a woman. No one, especially pregnant women should get this vaccine
21 0 Reply

Marie blaszak → Honey Bee
5 days ago
I agree!!!
7 0 Reply

felix1999 → Honey Bee
5 days ago
If they can't get the sex right, how can you believe anything else they have to peddle. Only biological women can be pregnant! Geesh! Could someone please stop this insanity?
4 0 Reply

ZoeyMO → Honey Bee
2 days ago
Underage girls, who are not yet women, and intersex and trans people can be pregnant as well.
0 0 Reply

Dennis
5 days ago
Post Fauci and Birx, doctors and scientists might want to re-think calling themselves "Experts." "Promoter" might be more descriptive and accurate.
16 0 Reply

Wendy → Dennis
5 days ago
Drug pusher is most accurate.
7 0 Reply

Peter van der Stam
5 days ago
How could we possibly so dumb to think that we don't have to boost pharma's profits now they have a lower than predicted profit since they have fleeced us for the last 3 years with lies?
12 0 Reply

Patriot
5 days ago
They BigPharma companies created a "combo" vaccine. Tetanus with Pertussis. Yes my doctor told me this and I declined the vax. This was in 2012. Pertussis was the most common vaccine-preventable disease in the world. Interesting that in that in 2012 marked the most cases in the United States in more than 50 years.
8 0 Reply

Wendy
5 days ago
Call it what it is. Murder and murder of unborn infants is correctly called infanticide.
5 0 Reply

Yoganana
5 days ago
My sister and I had whooping cough in the 1960s. We were both vaccinated, as were all the children with whom we came in contact. So there's that.......
5 0 Reply

John Stone Mod → Yoganana
5 days ago
Me too!
3 0 Reply

Allen
5 days ago
"Whooping cough" as a disease caused by a bacterium is complete nonsense.

First recognized in the Middle Ages, pertussis, or whooping cough, has held many names over the centuries. The word "pertussis" was coined by English physician Thomas Sydenham in 1670 and came to mean "violent cough."

In 1906, Jules Bordet and Octave Gengou invented a special medium, called Bordet-Gengou (BG) medium, which they claimed would allow for isolation and identification of the pathogen responsible for this chronic coughing condition.

BG medium was made from "a melted fluid consisting of a glycerin extract of potato, agar, and salt solution, to which an equal volume of defibrinated rabbit or human blood was added."

Bordet and Gengou claimed their medium could promote the growth of bacterial colonies if inoculated with sputum taken on the first day of the disease. According to Bordet and Gengou this process would create the conditions for isolation of the alleged microbe.

History records that their first successfully isolated pertussis bacillus came from the

see more
5 0 Reply

pamragland → Allen
5 days ago
I have linked the DTap/Tdap to the brain damage causing 25% of the kids to have Dyslexia especially in CA.

Kids with Dyslexia May struggle with reading and / or math and / or writing. Kids with Dyslexia do not learn with Common Core. (Bill Gates not a teacher is behind Common Core.) They could teach all the kids to read the way kids with Dyslexia must learn - but they won't.

This is literally a dumbing down of generations. On purpose.

The article also doesn't mention this vaccine is linked to brain swelling. I discovered this when it happened to my own daughter in the required in 7th grade In CA TDap. It caused dyslexia and ADHD & I have the records to prove it.

Brain swelling is so common it's listed as a contraindication on the CDC site. This was the whole reason behind vaccine court. That made me MAD as a parent. We would never of done that vaccine.

You can't even get a tetanus shot in the US it's only the T dap, because it's on the childhood schedule so they get out of all legal liability.
7 0 Reply

QuentonQuale → Allen
4 days ago
Thank you for pointing this out. Bacteria show up when the organism is already out of balance. They are always present but proliferate on dead and dying tissue. Toxic conditions lead to dying tissue that welcomes bacterial growth.
2 0 Reply

ST → Allen
5 days ago
Thank you for the info.
2 0 Reply

2sonkevin
4 days ago
My God. If i knew then what i know now i would have never given any of my children any vaccine. Just lucky i guess.
4 0 Reply

Mayfield
5 days ago
Exactly, the DPT doesn't work and presents serious adverse events to infants, including prolonged screeching (arching back and uncontrollable screaming following vaccination), SIDS, autism. The current administration supports this, as did the prior, as did the prior.

The risk/benefit ratio is grossly inverted for the DPT vaccine.
4 0 Reply

Leslie Henderson
5 days ago
Adults don't even get such a thing as "whooping cough" It's BIGHARMA pushing more TOXIC DRUGS! on the willing to take them!
3 0 Reply

LinUK
5 days ago
About 50 years ago here in England, there was some publicity about the WC jab damaging children, of course 'they' jumped all over it and whoever said it probably got the Wakefield treatment.
Anyway, my son had already had it but I decided not to let my new daughter get it. About 10 years later they both caught WC, she got over it in about a week and my son was off school for about 2 months.
2 0 Reply

Paul Hastilow
5 days ago
The NBC and Their "Experts" are really scrapping the bottom of the Barrel with this "Alarmist Report".
Who ever heard of "Whooping Cough" in Adults....? It's a "Kiddies" ailment.....?
Never in the Reign of Pigs Pudding, can this be True.....!
When is "Financial year End....?"... Pharmaceutical investors looking for Bigger Payback, in these Days of Deceit and Deception...?
I personally think, the Spot light on Big pHarmas promotions and "Advice"(not.!) Should be curtailed until "Disease X" Amazingly Steps into the Limelight, once the "Lab Leak has occurred in Ukraine".....? Reported to be associated with a "Quantum Leap from a Unicorn, to a Leprechaun"🙈🙉
2 0 Reply

Rhonda Watts Hettinger
5 days ago
I was interested to read this, in light of my having been given a TDaP (without my consent) last week at my annual check-up. I had asked for a tetanus booster (my last was 10 years ago after a farm injury, at which time I had to forcefully demand *just* a tetanus booster instead of a combo). It was only when I got home and read over my post-visit paperwork that I found I had been given the TDaP instead. No one informed me that I would receive the combo instead of the tetanus booster, and I was not offered any insert material on it. Can we say denial of informed consent?

Yes, I do want the tetanus booster--I'm on a working farm, so the risk is there.
2 0 Reply

ZoeyMO → Rhonda Watts Hettinger
2 days ago
Monovalent tetanus vaccines are no longer available. All of them are combo shots these days. The best you can do is request a Td.

https://www.cdc.gov/vaccine...
0 0 Reply

Hanne Koplev
3 days ago
Side effect of the vaccination: https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih... Systematic review and meta-analysis of the effect of pertussis vaccine in pregnancy on the risk of chorioamnionitis, non-pertussis infectious diseases and other adverse pregnancy outcomes
0 0 Reply

CastleConnell
4 days ago
The pediatrician told me that all the kids that came in with whooping cough, had had the shot.
0 0 Reply

r2bzjudge
4 days ago
In 2012, the CDC first began recommending the TDap vaccine for pregnant women to protect newborn infants, despite the fact that they largely don't need the diphtheria or tetanus components, Nass said.

The CDC holds dozens of vaccine patents. The CDC is effectively a vaccine marketing agent. The CDC had no evidence that the Covid shot was safe for pregnant women, yet recommended it to them as being safe. The birth rate dropped after pregnant women took the shot.

"NBC reported that although the disease poses no serious threat to most adults, adults ought to get vaccinated to protect infants."

That routine, again. However, "deaths from pertussis are extremely rare, averaging about 10 per year." If the pertussis shot is only 15% effective, it isn't much going to protect infants, if adults take it.
0 0 Reply

T.Martin
4 days ago
This article by Suzanne Humphries MD about how to treat babies/children with whooping cough is something a new parent should read. Seems a lot safer than a vaccine..
http://www.doctoryourself.c...
0 0 Reply

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